

P240  
Am 32  
no. 44.

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## SOMETHING OF ADVANTAGE TO YOU.

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FRIEND, if you have a few minutes to spare, I should like to talk with you. I want to tell you of something to your advantage. I have the kindest possible feelings in my heart toward you, and I should like to do you good. I know you would like to be wealthy, and easy, and happy; and I can tell you how you may become so. I shall recommend you to do three things.

First, RECEIVE CHRIST. Christ is the Son of God. God has treasured up all riches in his Son. Here are good things for the body, better things for the soul, and the best things for both soul and body in another world. Here is grace to pardon all your sins, mercy to sympathize with you in all your sorrows, truth to instruct and inform your mind, peace to calm and comfort your conscience, and the Holy Spirit to help all your infirmities, and make you meet for heaven. All God can give, or you can need, is treasured up in Christ. Christ is God's unspeakable gift, to poor, lost, and wretched sinners. This gift is revealed and presented to you in the Gospel. You may read of it in the New Testament, and you may hear it published from every pulpit where the Gospel is preached. God freely offers you his Son. He wishes you to receive him just because he delighteth in mercy. It is really of no advantage to him, but is of unspeakable advantage to you. Now, in order to receive Christ, it is only necessary that you feel your need of him, perceive that he is just suited to your case, and then believe on him. For believing on Christ is receiving him, and receiving

him to be our perfect Savior. Every one who is willing may receive Christ; and, as of old, to every one that receives him, he gives power to become a child of God, even every one that believes on his name. If you desire to receive Christ, and feel any difficulty about it, go alone, fall on your knees before God, confess your sin, tell him you desire to receive his beloved Son to be your Savior, and beseech him to send his Holy Spirit into your heart, to enable you to do so. Pursue this course in simplicity and sincerity, and Christ will soon be found in your heart the hope of glory; and having Christ, all the unsearchable riches of Christ are yours. You are made rich for all time; more, you are made rich for eternity. You are among the very wealthiest of God's creatures. Having received Christ, then, in order to be easy,—

Second, REST IN CHRIST. Jesus has done everything necessary to give your conscience rest. You can have no cause to fear, for all that the law of God required of you Jesus has done; all that the justice of God could inflict on you, Jesus has borne; and all that is necessary for you while here on earth, or to fit you for heaven, Jesus has obtained. You are not, therefore, required to do any thing in order to fulfill the law, satisfy the justice of God, or gain you a title to heaven; all is done. Nor have you to suffer any thing to pacify the wrath of God or to atone for your sins; all has been suffered. Nor have you to labor to procure what is necessary to maintain a godly life, or to give a right of admittance to glory, for through the knowledge of Christ is given to you all things that pertain to life and godliness. Rest therefore in Jesus. Rely only on Jesus. Trust alone in Jesus. In health, and all your duties; in sickness, and all your sufferings, rest in Jesus. All through life and its various changes; and in death, and all its solemn circumstances, rest in Jesus. Place Jesus against all your defects, all your sins; plead Jesus for all you want, all you desire; look

to Jesus amid all your changes, and expect him to appear to supply, support, deliver, and bring you honorably through; so will you enjoy ease, repose and settled rest. Be anxious for nothing; be anxious under no circumstances, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known unto God, and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Resting in Christ always and everywhere,

Thirdly, REJOICE IN CHRIST. Rejoice in what Christ is, the Son of God, the Savior of sinners, and the Ruler of all worlds. Rejoice in what Christ has done, and done for you, in his life of obedience, and death of suffering. Rejoice in what Christ is doing, as your Advocate, Intercessor, and Forerunner, who has gone before you, and for you, into glory. Rejoice in what Christ has provided for you, promised to you, and is now preparing for you, in his Father's house. Rejoice in the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge; in the blood of Christ, which cleanseth from all sin; in the obedience of Christ, which justifies from all things; in the power of Christ, which keeps all his people safe; in the fullness of Christ, which supplies all his people's needs; and in the constant sympathy of Christ, by which he enters into all his people's trials, troubles, and afflictions. Rejoice in the prospect of the coming of Christ, who will soon come to collect his people together, silence the groans of the suffering creation, and reign before his ancients gloriously. Rejoice in the offices Christ fills, in the names Christ bears, in the honors Christ wears, and in the happiness Christ enjoys. For if you receive Christ, if you rest on Christ, you have an interest in everything belonging to Christ, and all will combine to make you safe, holy, and happy. If, therefore, immense wealth, the prospect of eternal health, and the assurance of inconceivable glory, are sufficient to make you rich, easy, and happy, you ought to be so.

But *have you received Christ?* He has been presented to you often; have you indeed and of a truth received him? If not, the great thing in religion is not done yet. You are not safe, you are not holy, you ought not to be easy or happy. Your first business is to receive Christ. There is nothing to prevent your doing so at this moment, but unbelief. Only believe, and Christ is yours. Only believe, and all that Christ has is yours. Only believe, and all that Christ has done shall be placed to your account. If you have received Christ, *do you not rest in Christ?* Do you rely on his blood alone? Do you confide in his righteousness alone? Do you trust in his Word alone? If so, you are at rest. Jesus gives you rest. Sweet rest. Permanent rest. Rest akin to the rest of heaven. *Do you rejoice in Jesus?* You should, you should. No angel in heaven has more reason to be happy than you have. No angel in heaven has such cause to rejoice as you have. Rejoice, Christian, rejoice in Jesus. He is a precious, perfect, perpetual Savior. He will never deceive you, neglect you, or forsake you; but will do for you exceeding abundantly above all that you can ask or think. Rejoice, rejoice then, rejoice in Jesus!

Oh cease, my wandering soul,  
On restless wing to roam;  
All the wide world, to either pole,  
Has not for thee a home.

Behold the ark of God,  
Behold the open door;  
Oh haste to gain that dear abode,  
And rove, my soul, no more.

There safe thou shalt abide,  
There sweet shall be thy rest;  
Thy every longing satisfied —  
With full salvation blest.